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attention of the management.

Send correspondence for publication so as
to reach the office Monday. No matter in-
tended for current issue which arrives as late
as Thursday can appear in that number, as
Thursday is press day.

All news matter sent us for publication
must be written only on one side of the pa-
per, and should be accompanied by the name
of the contributor; not necessarily for pub-
lication, but as an evidence of good faith.

NEGRO BANKS.

It is worth noting that while the
banks of the country are undergoing
possibly the severest strain since the
panic of 1893, not a single institution
run by colored men so far has been
forced to suspend payment. In fact,
while the depositors of white banks in
New York City were withdrawing
their money from one of the strongest
banks in the country at the rate of
\$14,444 a minute, the colored business
men of that city were organizing an
enterprise for colored depositors. And,
since then another bank has been or-
ganized in Philadelphia. This adds a
feather to the cap of the colored bank-
er and his banking methods.

At the time when the National Busi-
ness League held its meeting in Tope-
ka, Kans., there were 31 banks owned,
controlled and operated by Negroes in
the United States, thirteen of these
being in one state—Mississippi. Since
then, other than the two mentioned
above, one has been organized in Tex-
as, one in Oklahoma and others have
been prevented from opening in Mis-
sissippi by the refusal of Governor Var-
daman to issue charters to any more
Negro business enterprises in that
state.

These colored banks are all enjoying
prosperity and the colored bankers are
to be congratulated that unlike the
New York bankers, whose reckless in-
vestment of the funds of the deposi-
tors in venturesome business enter-
prises destroyed the confidence of the
public and brought about the financial
flurry in Wall street, they have been
conservative in conducting the affairs
of their corporations. The colored
banks will come out of the flurry
stronger in the people's confidence for
having withstood the strain and will
command and deserve more business
than ever before.

THE ELECTION AND BROWN- VILLE.

Theodore Roosevelt and William
Howard Taft, when they examine the
returns from the elections held Tues-
day and think of Brownsville, can well
exclaim in full accord with Lady Mac-
beth: "Out damned spot." For they
will find cold comfort from the re-
turns. In most of the states where
the republican party was successful,
the reactionaries were in the ascend-
ancy.

In Ohio, Mr. Roosevelt's candidate
for Mayor, the Hon. Theodore Burton,
was undoubtedly defeated by the votes
of Negroes led by Harry Smith, the
veteran editor of the Cleveland Gaz-
ette. In Cincinnati the Cox machine,
which Secretary Taft defeated in a
previous campaign, landed a republi-
can victory. In Pennsylvania, "the
gang" which has no particular love

for Mr. Roosevelt nor his policies, won
in a walk. New Jersey, which has
been counted as safely a republican
state for a number of years, is so close
that it will probably take the official
count to decide which ticket won. In
New York City the republican Inde-
pendence League fusion ticket which
was engineered by Mr. Herbert Par-
sons, a man whom it is claimed was
made chairman of the republican com-
mittee through the influence of the
administration, was snowed under by
Tammany. Even Little Rhode Island
re-elected its democratic Governor.
Perhaps though the President and Mr.
Taft can extract some consolation
from the fact that Kentucky, one of
the states of the solid South, has been
brought into the republican fold.

That Brownsville has played a part
in the election is evident from the in-
structions sent to campaigners in New
York previous to the election: "Don't
mention Roosevelt's name when ad-
dressing Negroes." In Cleveland, Bur-
ton's opposition to Foraker, because of
the latter's break with the President
on account of the Brownsville investi-
gation, was made the basis of the col-
ored voters' opposition to the republi-
can ticket. In Kentucky though the
colored voters supported the ticket—it
was only after the state convention
had refused to endorse Taft for Presi-
dent.

The Brownsville injustice has made
itself felt at the polls and it should
cause the republican party to sit up
and take notice. A party name will
not make all men vote to endorse
wrong doing.

THE REFORMATORY.

A majority of the people of Tennes-
see don't care a fig where the state re-
formatory is located just so it is built.
There may be several good reasons
why the institution should not be lo-
cated at the Hermitage, but the one
advanced by the Hermitage Associa-
tion seems far-fetched. "Ninety per
cent of the 'dear bad boys' are Ne-
groes, and to have this class seen in
the fields, working on the farm, flock-
ing around the building, hanging
around the Hermitage itself, would be
a disgrace to the State of Tennessee,"
says the Regent of the Ladies' Hermit-
age Association. A criminal is a crim-
inal no matter to what branch of the
human family he may belong and it
would be no more nor no less a dis-
grace for a Negro of this class to hang
around the Hermitage than it would
be for one of another race. Any ob-
jection to the location of the reformat-
ory on this historic ground should be
on account of the placing of a state
penal institution, *per se*, on grounds
hallowed by the memory of Tennes-
see's greatest statesman, and not be-
cause "ninety per cent" of the inmates
of the establishment will be Negroes.
The Regent of the Ladies' Hermitage
Association doubtless forgets that dur-
ing the life of "Andy" Jackson, who
enjoyed the love and respect of "his
Negroes" and reciprocated the same,
more than ninety per cent of those
who hung around the Hermitage and
worked on the farm were Negroes.
The question of locating a building for
the reformation of boys who have
strayed from the paths of rectitude
should be above that of race, color or
previous condition of servitude.

Mississippi as usual elected the en-
tire democratic ticket. There is one
redeeming feature to this though, it
retires Vardaman to private life.

Too much Johnson, too much
Brownsville and too much Foraker de-
feated Theodore Burton in Cleveland,
Ohio.

With the price of the necessities of
life soaring up near the Milky Way,
the Thanksgiving Turkey will be out
of the range of the average man's tele-
scope.

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell is saying
some things about the conditions
which the average servant girl must
face in many of the homes of the
South, which make very bad reading,
yet we would take her word for it in
preference to some of the preachers
who place her in the same category
with Ben Tillman. That there is

much truth in Mrs. Terrell's charges
is evident from the number of white
men daily seen consorting with Negro
strumpets. To find just how much
truth there is in her statement though,
we think it would pay those, who fear
that the line of demarcation between
the races will be crossed, for an inves-
tigation.

The Richmond (Va.) Planet thinks
that the colored plasterers of De
Moines, Iowa, who presented Roosevelt
with a walking cane should have
called in a minister to make the pre-
sentation speech. We wonder if a dele-
gation of colored bankers or newspa-
per men, in both of which callings
Editor John Mitchell is a leading light,
would be advised to call in a minister
to make the presentation speech in
the event either should decide to give
a present to the President?

One of the best and most prolific
writers to the colored press of the
country has begun a war on the con-
tributors to colored newspapers who
torture good usage of language with
such senseless titles as "Mrs. Dr.,"
"Mrs. Bishop," "Mrs. Lawyer," etc.
This purist might add a few editors
and lecture them on the phrase "pres-
ent incumbent."

Almost every business man in the
city recognizes the need of an organi-
zation composed of bona fide business
men. Almost every one can see the
advantage to be derived from such an
organization; then, why not get to-
gether, bury petty jealousies and form
such a body?

THE NEGRO AND JUSTICE.

In respect to its history, the negro
question has little in common with
the race's famous representative in
fiction who "jes' growed;" wherever
one may incline to place the responsi-
bility for its birth, the fact remains
that since it was begotten it has been
nourished and guarded against disso-
lution as carefully as an incubator
baby. However, the nation as a whole
may busy its fickle mind from season
to season with trust investiga-
tions, trades' unions, polygamy, social-
ism and woman's rights, one section of
it steadfastly and with ever-growing
enthusiasm has invited the country's
contemplation of its own pet issue,
and has labored night and day to
adorn in scarlet hue the race question
which it itself has made.

It is an old saying that any lover
may win the most reluctant sweet-
heart if he but persist stoutly and
long. If the plan pursued by the
South has been evolved from this
primitive principle of courtship, re-
sults would seem in a fair way to
justify the soundness of it. There
can hardly be a doubt that the South-
ern view of the negro's character and
destiny is gaining a wider acceptance,
and it does not need the Southern
newspaper's jubilant comment upon
every exhibition of race prejudice out-
side the borders of the Solid South to
convince candid persons of the dis-
tasteful fact. Until recently I had be-
lieved and argued that Northern anti-
negro sentiment was confined to the
ignorant, who resented his competi-
tion in labor, and those sweet-tem-
pered individuals whom a real desire
to show a kindly and sympathetic
spirit toward the South had led to be-
lieve that acquiescence in its views
was "broad-minded." I am forced to
admit that the latter class at least is
very much larger than I had once sup-
posed. As these amiable people are
presumably always especially open to
conviction, it is to them that I would
particularly address myself.

The ardent supporter of a theory
rarely sees its defects; far less is he
able to give any just presentation of
it when peculiar circumstances have
led him to elevate the theory to the
dignity of a cause for which he is
being persecuted. This is precisely
the Southern position in respect to the
race question; hence it may be judged
how large a grain of salt must be tak-
en with all Southern descriptions of
existing conditions. The most schol-
arly men of the South, calm enough
reasoners upon other themes, speak
and write of the negro in the impas-
sioned, white-hot style of the popu-
lar orator. When the subject thus
upsets the man of learning, a judicial
attitude is hardly to be expected from
the multitude or the partisan news-
paper. One of the latter, commenting
bitterly upon some reproof adminis-
tered to the South by a Northern
Democratic sheet desirous of blaming
somebody for the results of the last
Presidential election, said:

"The South will join no party . . .
that wishes to treat negroes as gen-
tlemen, and to compare 'negro schol-
ars' with 'white ignoramuses' or 'ne-
gro gentlemen' with 'white black-
guards.'"

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supplied with entirely new fixtures. The best feature
of it is it has three of the best South Nashville bar-
bers. Charles Stringer conducts this shop; and
our other one, "The Little Gem," located at 417
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the most fashionable residence por-
tion of New Orleans, and, because of
its route, is naturally the least patro-
nized by negroes of any in the city.
The small compartment reserved for
them is rarely filled, and at the hour
when "the cars are crowded with the-
atergoers in evening dress" there is
frequently not a Negro in the car.
To this providential circumstance is
doubtless due the fact that the recon-
struction of the Prytania street
tracks was finally accomplished with-
out the precipitation of a race war!

This eagerness to cross the bridge
before they come to it, this sensitiv-
ness to the prospect of possible
"shouldering" by a negro passing to
a front seat on the part of people who
without a qualm risk the same con-
tact when they crowd past him in a
rear seat is a type of the manifesta-
tions of the race issue in its larger
aspects. For that reason I have
quoted it. It may be readily gathered
from this how easily every suspicious
movement is converted into an "as-
sault." My personal observation in-
dicates that the reiterated cry of the
Southern newspaper that "conditions
are becoming well nigh unbearable" is,
to say the least, a conspicuous exagger-
ation. And I think that my observa-
tion should count for something, for I
am a white woman, living in one of the
larger, and, by common consent, one
of the wickedest of Southern cities
in which I go about unattended day
or night whenever occasion arises
as it does very often. At all times I
meet negro men; my only approach to
an unpleasant experience in all my
life has been on two occasions when
I was spoken to by fashionably dressed
young white men. I know a very con-
siderable number of other women who
go about alone as I do, among them a
young physician, who answers all her
night calls unmolested. Such "con-
ditions" seem hardly "unbearable."

Doubtless so long as woman con-
tinues to be looked upon as the pet of
the respectable man and the prey of
the vicious, she must everywhere run
a certain risk whenever she ventures
abroad alone, but women have met
more ghastly fates in Chicago and

(Continued on page 6.)